

force? Nothing about banning or racial profiling, nothing to fix the Federal criminal prosecution standards, nothing to roll back unqualified immunity, and nothing on limitations of military hardware and disbursements.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my brothers and sisters: Where is the party of Lincoln?

Where is the party of the Constitution that says we create a more perfect union to create justice?

Mr. Speaker, this bill here is the cry of those who have never been heard. It gives us a pathway for success. I am glad to stand with the Congressional Black Caucus and the Justice Department to say that this bill has to pass, the Justice and Policing Act named after George Floyd.

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the previous question is ordered on the motion to recommit.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to recommit.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the yeas appeared to have it.

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3 of House Resolution 965, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this question are postponed.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

#### PATENTS FOR HUMANITY PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT ACT

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 7259) to allow acceleration certificates awarded under the Patents for Humanity Program to be transferable.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 7259

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Patents for Humanity Program Improvement Act”.

#### SEC. 2. TRANSFERABILITY OF ACCELERATION CERTIFICATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A holder of an acceleration certificate issued pursuant to the Patents for Humanity Program (established in the notice entitled “Humanitarian Awards Pilot Program”, published at 77 Fed. Reg. 6544 (February 8, 2012)), or any successor thereto, of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, may transfer (including

by sale) the entitlement to such acceleration certificate to another person.

(b) REQUIREMENT.—An acceleration certificate transferred under subsection (a) shall be subject to any other applicable limitations under the notice entitled “Humanitarian Awards Pilot Program”, published at 77 Fed. Reg. 6544 (February 8, 2012), or any successor thereto.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. JOHNSON) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CLINE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7259, which strengthens the U.S. Patent and Trademark Offices’ Patents for Humanity Awards competition by allowing the competition’s prize to be transferable to third parties, introduced by my colleague, LUCY MCBATH, the Representative from the great State of Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 7259 has bipartisan support. As chairman of the Committee on the Judiciary’s Intellectual Property Subcommittee, I am proud to cosponsor this legislation alongside Representative MARTHA ROBY, ranking member of the subcommittee, and our subcommittee colleague, Representative BEN CLINE.

Intellectual property and innovation are what help our country flourish. In Congress, we have been committed to ensuring that the intellectual property system incentivizes innovation to the greatest extent possible.

Through its support for the USPTO’s Patents For Humanity Program, this bill accomplishes that goal. And I want to read a little bit from the USPTO.gov website about the Patents for Humanity Program.

How do patents help improve lives globally through inspired innovators making a difference? And I will quote here: “Patents for Humanity is the USPTO’s awards program for those using game-changing technology to address global challenges. It provides business incentives for patent holders who find ways to reach underserved communities. These success stories can help others learn how to harness innovation for human progress. All patent holders can participate,” it says.

Since 2012, the program has given 21 awards, not just to big companies, but also small and medium-sized enterprises, startups, universities, and nonprofits. Together, their work has improved millions of lives around the

globe. In addition to receiving public recognition of their work, winners will be issued certificates entitling them to expedite select proceedings at the USPTO.

Mr. Speaker, I believe we have a list of some of those winners thus far, and I would love to read those names into the RECORD.

The Patents for Humanity Program highlights the ways that innovation and intellectual property can help solve global humanitarian challenges. Past award recipients have created low-cost phototherapy devices to treat infants with jaundice and distributed chemical packets that removed contaminants from drinking water, to name just a few. Winners receive a certificate that allows them, as I said, to accelerate certain patent matters at the USPTO.

Mr. Speaker, I would read into the RECORD the names of some award winners to you:

In 2018, Russell Crawford won the award for creating tools for low-cost drilling of water wells to reach deep aquifers free from soil contaminants.

The organization, Brooklyn Bridge to Cambodia, Incorporated, won in 2018 for creating an affordable rice planting device that helps Cambodian farmers improve their crop yields and which minimizes the number of farmers—mostly women—who have to work in the most exhausting and unhealthy conditions.

Also, the firm, Solight Design, won the award in 2018 for designing a portable solar light that has been distributed to over 200,000 people worldwide, including many in refugee camps.

Also, the firm, Sanivation, LLC, for designing a waste processing plant that transforms human waste into sanitary briquettes that replace wood and charcoal for heating and cooking, with four plants serving 10,000 people in Kenya by the end of the year.

And also, in 2018, Because International won the award for distributing 180,000 pairs of resizable shoes in over 95 countries, with local manufacturing taking place in Ethiopia, and plans for Haiti and Kenya.

And there are a number of others that have won this prestigious Patents for Humanity Award. All the way back to 2013, American Standard, SunPower Corporation, Nutriset, Golden Rice, GRIT: Global Research Innovation and Technology. And also, Nokero, DuPont Pioneer. And last but not least, Intermark Partners Strategic Management, LLP.

Mr. Speaker, all should be commended for winning this prestigious award and contributing to the betterment of humanity.

Mr. Speaker, under H.R. 7259, award winners will be able to transfer this acceleration certificate to third parties. This will strengthen participation in the Patents for Humanity Program and further encourage the use of innovation and the intellectual property for critical humanitarian purposes.